

Response to “Sun and Shadow” by Ray Bradbury

“The camera clicked like an insect,” is how Bradbury starts his short story “Sun and Shadow,” a passage developing around the theme of how everyone is equal. The story starts when a man by the name of Ricardo ventures out of his home to assert his opinion, only to find a photographer and model taking pictures of his property and home, without permission! He raced down the stairs and leapt out the door. “That’s my banister!” he said with growing rage, as he approached the workers. No one seemed to see a problem yet, and these stuck up employees even went so low as to attempt to bribe the proud Ricardo. “I work for my money,” is how it was refused.

The two men continued to argue, and soon a crowd formed. The house owner went on, “You are employed; I am employed.” It is here that you can see the attempt at furthering the fact that all are equal. “We are poor people,” he continued, “but we are people too.”

To spite Ricardo, the photographer decides to go to a neighbor's house to take the pictures. They started to set up for the digital memory, but the hero acted on his feet. He did the only thing he could to spoil the photo without causing harm, so, the pants dropped. The crowd gazed in awe as the shot was ruined. These proceedings followed in this manner until a policeman was called over. Somehow, the law enforcer saw nothing wrong with this and let the spectacle continue. If the camera went to the beach, so would Ricardo. If the camera went into town, so would Ricardo. With persistence the intruders left, and he proved to everyone that

sticking up for what you believe in can make a change, even if nobody else thinks so. If someone thinks that they are worth more than you, you can still trump them.

Another subject to touch on is the different point of view of the characters. The photographer and model were just trying to do their jobs and earn a living. However, Ricardo didn't like it on his property. It is interesting to think of the story in this fashion.

All in all, "Sun and Shadow" was a good story and it is worth reading. Some of it is a little uninteresting, but some will have any reader wanting to feel like the man in question.